

SOLUTIONS to SELECTED HW Exercises (HW 4)

①

8.6.2 Let  $A$  be a cut. Show that, if  $r \in A$  and  $s \notin A$  then  $r < s$ .

Pf: Let  $A$  be a cut, let  $r \in A$  and suppose  $s \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $s \notin A$ . Clearly,  $s \neq r$ , so either  $r < s$  or  $s < r$ .

But if  $s < r$ , then property (c2) of a cut would imply that  $s \in A$ , a contradiction.

Thus,  $r < s$ .

□

8.6.6 (a) Prove that

$$-A := \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : \exists t \notin A \text{ with } t < -r\}$$

defines a cut.

Pf: Since  $A$  is a cut,  $A \neq \emptyset$ .

(c1): If  $-A = \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $\forall r \in \mathbb{Q}, \exists t \notin A$  with  $t < -r$ .

Taking  $r = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , we see that then,

by exercise 8.6.2,  $A \subseteq (-\infty, -n)$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , (2)

implying that  $A \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, -n) = \emptyset$ ,

Contradicting that  $A \neq \emptyset$ . Thus,  $-A \neq \emptyset$ .

On the other hand, since  $A \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\exists t \in A$  with  $t \notin A$ . Since  $r := -t - 1$  satisfies  $r \in A$  and

$$\begin{array}{c} -r > t \\ \text{" } \\ t+1 \end{array}$$

We see that  $-t-1 \in -A$ , so  $-A \neq \emptyset$ .

(C2): Suppose  $r \in -A$  and  $r' \in A$  with  $r' < r$ .

By definition,  $\exists t \in Q$  with  $t \notin A$  and  $t < -r$ .

But then  $t < -r < -r'$ , so  $r' \in -A$ .

(C3): Let  $r \in -A$ , so  $\exists t \in Q \setminus A$  with  $t < -r$ .



Since  $r = \frac{r+r}{2} < \frac{r-t}{2} < \frac{-t-t}{2} = -t$

(3)

We see that  $r < \frac{r-t}{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$

and  $\frac{r-t}{2} < -t$ , i.e.  $t < -\left(\frac{r-t}{2}\right)$

thus,  $\frac{r-t}{2} \in -A$ , and  $\frac{r-t}{2} > r$ .

Since  $r \in A$  was arbitrary, we see that  $-A$  has no largest element.  $\therefore -A$  is a cut.

(b) What goes wrong if we set

$$* \quad -A = \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : -r \notin A\} \quad ?$$

Condition (C3) is not satisfied, e.g. if  $A = \emptyset = \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : r < 0\}$   
always

Then  $-A$  as defined by \* would be

$$\begin{aligned} -A &= \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : -r \notin A\} \\ &= \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : -r \geq 0\} \\ &= \{r \in \mathbb{Q} : r \leq 0\}, \end{aligned}$$

which has a largest element, namely 0.

(c) If  $a \in A$  and  $r \in -A$ , show that  $a+r \in \emptyset$ . (4)

Now, finish the proof of property (f4) for addition in Definition 8.6.4.

Soln: let  $a \in A$  and  $r \in -A$ ,

thus,  $\exists t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus A$  with  $t < -r$ , so  $r < -t$

By exercise 8.6.2,  $a < t$ .

Thus,  $a+r < t+(-t) = 0$ , so  $a+r \in \emptyset$ .

It follows that  $A+(-A) \subseteq \emptyset$ .

Conversely, we now show that  $\emptyset \subseteq A+(-A)$ .

Let  $q \in \emptyset$ , so  $q < 0$ . Then  $-q > 0$ .

We claim that  $\exists a \in A$  with  $a - \frac{q}{2} \notin A$ .

Otherwise,  $\forall a \in A$ ,  $a - \frac{q}{2} \in A$ . But then the sequence

$a, a - \frac{q}{2}, a - \frac{2q}{2}, a - \frac{3q}{2}, \dots$  satisfies  $a - n\frac{q}{2} \in A \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a - n\left(\frac{q}{2}\right) = \infty$ , since  $-\frac{q}{2} > 0$ .

But then, by ~~(c2)~~ (c2), we would have

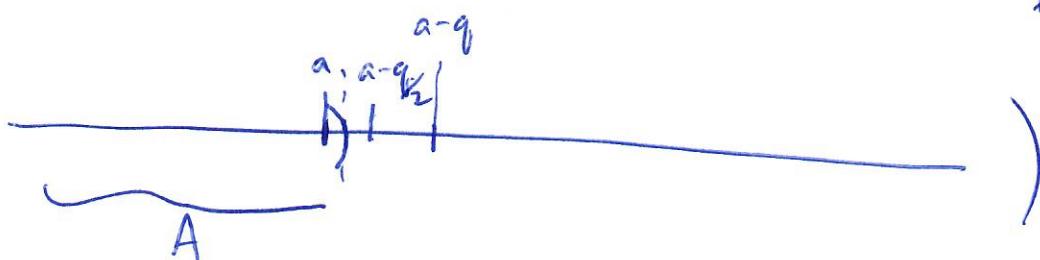
(5)

$\mathbb{Q} \cap (-\infty, a - q_{\frac{1}{2}}) \subseteq A$   $\forall n$ , so then  $A = \mathbb{Q}$ ,

a contradiction.

Thus,  $\exists a \in A$  with  $a - q_{\frac{1}{2}} \notin A$

(Picture:



But then  $-r = a - q$  satisfies  $-r > t \notin A$

" " "

$$a - q > a - q_{1/2}$$

$\therefore r \in -A$ , so  $q = a + r \in A + (-A)$ ,

and so  $0 \subseteq A + (-A)$ .  $\therefore 0 = A + (-A)$

This finishes the proof of the addition part of (f4).

8.6.7 (a) Show that (when  $A, B \geq 0$ )

$$AB := \{ab : a \in A, b \in B \text{ with } a, b \geq 0\} \cup \underbrace{\{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < 0\}}_0$$

is a cut and that property (o5) holds.

Soln: Since  $-1 \in AB$ ,  $AB \neq \emptyset$ .

Furthermore, since  $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus A$  and  $\exists s \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus B$

(6)

By exercise 8.6.2,  $\forall a \in A, a < r$   
 and  $\forall b \in B, b < s$ .

In particular, since  $0 \in A$  and  $0 \in B$ , we see that  
 $r, s \geq 0$ .

Also, it follows from \*\* that  $\forall c \in AB$ ,

$c < r \cdot s$  (if  $c < 0$  it's obvious, and if  $c \geq 0$  then  $c = a \cdot b$  for some  $a \in A, b \in B$  with  $a, b \geq 0$ , so then follows from ).

In particular,  $r \cdot s \notin AB$ , so  $AB \neq \mathbb{Q}$ . (Thus (c1) holds for  $AB$ )

Now fix  $c \in AB$ , and let  $c' < c$ .

$\cap$   
 $\mathbb{Q}$

If  $c < 0$ , then  $c' < 0$  so  $c' \in AB$ , by \*\*.

If  $c \geq 0$  and  $c' \geq 0$  then  $c = a \cdot b$  for some  $a \in A, b \in B$  with  $a, b \geq 0$ .

Thus,  $c' < c = a \cdot b$ , so if  $a$  or  $b$  is zero,

Then  $c' < 0$  so again  $c' \in AB$ . (7)

If  $a \cdot b > 0$ , then each of  $a, b > 0$  so

$$\frac{c'}{a} < b, \text{ so } \frac{c'}{a} \in B \text{ by (c2).}$$

Thus,  $c' = \left(\frac{c'}{a}\right) \cdot a \in AB$ , by \*\*.  
 $\begin{matrix} \text{or} \\ (\text{B and } a > 0) \\ (\text{B and } a > 0) \end{matrix}$

$\therefore AB$  satisfies (c2).  $\checkmark$

Finally, let  $c \in AB$ . If  $c < 0$  then  $\frac{c}{2} > c$  and  
 $c_2 \in AB$ .

If  $c = 0$ , then  $0 \in A$  and  $0 \in B$

(if either  $0 \notin A$  (or  $0 \notin B$ ), then  $A = \emptyset$  (or  $B = \emptyset$ )  
and so  $AB = \emptyset$  by \*\* in this case)

So  $\exists a \in A$  with  $a > 0$   
 $\exists b \in B$  with  $b > 0$ , but then  $ab > 0$  and  $ab \in A \cdot B$ .

Finally, if  $c > 0$  then  $c = a \cdot b$  for some  $a \in A, b \in B$   
with  $a, b > 0$ . By (c3)  $\exists a' \in A, b' \in B$  with

(8)

$a' > a$ ,  $b' > b$ . But then

$$a'b' \in AB \text{ and } a'b' > ab = c.$$

We've shown in all cases that  $\forall c \in AB$ ,

$\exists c' \in AB$  with  $c' > c$ , verifying condition (c3). ✓

(o5), in the language of cuts, says for cuts  $A, B$  that

$$\emptyset \subseteq A \text{ and } \emptyset \subseteq B \Rightarrow \emptyset \subseteq AB.$$

This follows immediately from the definition \*\*, which holds for all  $A, B$  satisfying  $\emptyset \subseteq A$  and  $\emptyset \subseteq B$ .

(b) Propose a good candidate for the multiplicative identity on  $\mathbb{IR}$  and show that this works for all cuts  $A \geq \emptyset$ .

Soln: Define  $I := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : q < 1\}$ .

Fix any cut  $A$  with  $\emptyset \subseteq A$  and consider

$$I \cdot A = \{ia : a \in A \text{ and } i \in I \text{ with } a, i \geq 0\} \cup \emptyset.$$

$$\boxed{\{i \in I : i \geq 0\} = \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1)} @$$

Thus,  $\forall a \in A$  with  $a \geq 0$  and  $\forall i \in I$  with  $i \geq 0$ ,

$$a \cdot i < a, \text{ so } a \cdot i \in A.$$

(9)

Therefore  $I \cdot A \subseteq A$ , since by assumption  $\emptyset \subseteq A$ .

Conversely, let  $a \in A$ .

If  $a < 0$  then  $a \in I \cdot A$ .

If  $a \geq 0$ , we reason as follows:

$\exists a' \in A$  with  $a' > a$

By @, we then have  $\frac{a}{a'} \in \{i \in I : i \geq 0\}$ ,

and thus  $a = a' \cdot \frac{a}{a'} \in A \cdot I$ .

Since  $a \in A$  was arbitrary, we see that  $A \subseteq I \cdot A$ .

We've shown that  $A = A \cdot I$ .

(C) Show that the distributive property (f5) holds for all non-negative cuts.

Soln: We want to show that

$$\boxed{\text{④ } A \cdot (B + C) = A \cdot B + A \cdot C}, \text{ assuming } \emptyset \subseteq A, \emptyset \subseteq B \text{ and } \emptyset \subseteq C.$$

In case any of } A, B or C are  $\emptyset$ , it follows from " $X \cdot \emptyset = \emptyset \ \forall X \geq 0$ "

that (i) holds in that case.

(BTW, " $\forall x \text{ with } x \geq 0, x \cdot 0 = 0$ " follows immediately from the definition \*\*.)

We may then henceforth assume that none of  $A, B$  or  $C$  is  $0$ .

Notation:  $A_{\geq 0} := \{a \in A : a \geq 0\}$  + similarly for  $B, C$ .

$$\text{Thus, } A \cdot B = \{a \cdot b : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}\} \cup 0.$$

$$A \cdot C = \{a' \cdot c : a' \in A_{\geq 0}, c \in C_{\geq 0}\} \cup 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A \cdot B + A \cdot C = \{a \cdot b + a' \cdot c : a, a' \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}, c \in C_{\geq 0}\}$$

$$\cup \{ab + z : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}, z \in 0\}$$

$$\cup \{ac + z : a \in A_{\geq 0}, c \in C_{\geq 0}, z \in 0\}$$

$$\cup (0 + 0)$$

$$\stackrel{(i)}{=} \{a \cdot b + a' \cdot c : a, a' \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}, c \in C_{\geq 0}\} \cup 0;$$

[to see " $\subseteq$ ": RHS obviously contains 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> sets on LHS,  
 for  $ab + z \in 2^{\text{nd}}$  set, if  $ab + z < 0$  it  
 belongs to RHS, and if  $ab + z \geq 0$ ,  
 then write  $ab + z = a(b + \frac{z}{a}) + 0 \cdot c$ ]

(11)

Note that  $a, b > 0$  since otherwise  $ab + z \leq 0$  when  $z < 0$ ;

also  $b + z/a \in B_{\geq 0}$  since  $B$  is a cut (and  $ab + z \geq 0$ ),

also  $0 \in A$  since  $A \supseteq 0$  and  $A \neq \emptyset$ .

thus  $\{ab + z : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}, z \in \mathbb{R}\} \subseteq \text{RHS}$ ,

and similarly for the 3<sup>rd</sup> set on LHS.

RHS is obviously a subset of LHS.

Now any  $a \cdot b + a' \cdot c$  can be written as

$$(\text{WLOG suppose } a \geq a') \quad a \cdot b + a \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{a'}{a} \cdot c\right)}_{c' \in C} = a \cdot b + a' \cdot c' \quad c' \in C,$$

$$\text{So } AB + AC = \{a \cdot (b+c) : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0} \text{ and } c \in C_{\geq 0}\} \cup \emptyset.$$

On the other hand,

$$A(B+C) = \underbrace{\{a \cdot (b+c) : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B, c \in C, b+c \geq 0\}}_{\text{LHS}} \cup \emptyset.$$

For any expression  $b+c \geq 0$  with  $b \in B$ ,  $c \in C$ ,

$$\text{we may re-write it as } b+c = \begin{cases} \overset{\text{B}}{(b+c)+0} & \text{if } \cancel{b+c < 0} \\ \overset{\text{C}}{0+c+b} & \text{if } b < 0 \\ \overset{\text{B}}{B} & \\ \overset{\text{C}}{C} & \end{cases}$$

We see that any  $b+c$  as in ) may be re-written

$$\text{as } b+c = b' + c' \text{ where } b' \in B_{\geq 0} \text{ and } c' \in C_{\geq 0}.$$

$$\text{thus, } A(B+C) = \{a(b+c) : a \in A_{\geq 0}, b \in B_{\geq 0}, c \in C_{\geq 0}\} \cup \emptyset = AB + AC \quad \blacksquare$$